

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 108563

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ORIGIN SNM-02

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TO AMEMBASSY RANGOON

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 108563

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, BM, TH

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS PROGRAM FY 76

CINCPAC PASS POLAD

1. IN BUDGET HEARINGS MAY 6 BEFORE FOREIGN OPERATIONS SUB-COMMITTEE OF SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRED BY SENATOR INOUE, AMBASSADOR VANCE TESTIFIED IN CONNECTION WITH STATE REQUEST FOR FY 1976 INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS FUNDS. INOUE'S PRIMARY CONCERN WITH RESPECT TO BURMA WAS THE ABILITY OF GUB TO EFFECTIVELY OPERATE IN SHAN STATES TO INTERDICT NARCOTIC TRAFFICKING CARAVANS. INOUE CITED 1972 TESTIMONY STATING BURMESE UNABLE TO CONTROL SHAN AREAS. AMBASSADOR VANCE ASSURED HIM THAT BURMESE ARMED FORCES WERE ABLE, WITH SOME LIMITATIONS, TO OPERATE IN SHAN STATES AND
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PAGE 02 STATE 108563

THE PROVISION OF HELICOPTERS TO GUB WOULD GREATLY FACILITATE

BURMESE OPERATIONS AGAINST THESE CARAVANS.

2. SENATOR INOUE MADE STRONG POINT OF ASKING AMBASSADOR VANCE TO EXPLORE POSSIBILITY OF USING HELICOPTERS AND OTHER AIRCRAFT THAT ARE NOW REPORTEDLY AVAILABLE AS A RESULT OF EVACUATION OF SOUTH VIETNAMESE AND CAMBODIAN FORCES FOR OUR

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS. AMBASSADOR VANCE ASSURED SENATOR INOUE THAT THIS MATTER WOULD BE EXPLORED. KISSINGER

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